

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

generating a plurality of interrupts in a transfer of symbols from ~~between~~-fingers of a rake receiver to ~~and~~-a processor, ~~wherein the interrupts are produced by the fingers of the rake receiver~~ at a rate of generation per unit time independent of a time rate of the symbol boundaries.

wherein each of the plurality of interrupts is generated to signal the transfer of one of the symbols from one of the fingers of the rake receiver to the processor.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein generating said interrupts comprises generating said interrupts with a fixed rate.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein generating said interrupts comprises generating interrupts~~, wherein said symbol boundaries comprise a constant rate.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method[[.]] according to claim 1, wherein generating said interrupts comprises generating global symbol boundaries at a rate independent of the time rate of said symbol boundaries, wherein the rate is configured such that the

processor reads symbol data from a plurality of data registers independent of a rate that the plurality of fingers write symbol data to the plurality of data registers.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

writing symbols from a first of said fingers to an available one of a first data register and a second data register; and

writing symbols from a second of said fingers to another available one of said first data register and said second data register; and

in said global symbol boundaries, alternatively reading symbols from said first data register and said second data register at a rate independent of said first and second of said fingers writing symbols to said first data register and said second data register.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising at least one of incrementing a counter when writing symbols to one of said first data register and said second data register, and decrementing a counter when reading symbols from one of said first data register and said second data register.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:

if said counter reaches a predetermined value, reading more than one of said first data register and said second data register to which one of said fingers has written, in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:

if said counter reaches a predetermined value, continuing to read one of said first data register and said second data register in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

~~a processor; and~~

~~a rake receiver; and~~

a processor, wherein the apparatus is adapted to generate interrupts in a transfer of symbols from said rake receiver to said processor, wherein each of the interrupts is generated to signal the transfer of one of the symbols from one of the fingers of the rake receiver to the processor, said interrupts having a rate of generation per unit time independent of a time rate of symbol boundaries of said symbols, for receiving a plurality of multi-path signals, wherein the rake receiver further comprises:

a plurality of fingers for processing the plurality of multi-path signals, wherein the fingers produce a plurality of interrupts based on a transfer of symbols from the rake receiver to the processor at a rate of generation per unit time independent of the a time rate of the symbol boundaries.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said apparatus is able to generate said interrupts at a fixed rate.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said rake receiver is adapted to generate symbol boundaries that comprise a constant rate.
17. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said rake receiver is adapted to generate symbol boundaries that comprise a rate that changes with time.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a first of said fingers is able to write symbols to an available one of a first data register and a second data register, and a second of said fingers is able to write symbols to another available one of said first data register and said second data register, and said processor is able to alternatively-read symbols from said first data register and said second data register in said global symbol boundaries at a rate independent of said first and second of said fingers writing symbols to said first data register and said second data register.
20. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising: a counter that increments when writing symbols to one of said first data register and said second data register is written to.
21. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising: a counter that decrements when reading symbols from one of said first data register and said second data register is read from.
22. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein, if said counter reaches a predetermined value, said processor reads more than one of said first data register

and said second data register to which one of said fingers has written, in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

23. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein, if said counter reaches a predetermined value, said processor reads more than one of said first data register and said second data register to which one of said fingers has written, in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

24. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein, if said counter reaches a predetermined value, said processor continues reading one of said first data register and said second data register in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

25. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein, if said counter reaches a predetermined value, said processor continues reading one of said first data register and said second data register in a given one of said global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of said global symbol boundaries.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the symbol boundaries comprise a rate that changes with time.

29. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

generating a plurality of interrupts in a transfer of symbols from between-fingers of a rake receiver to and a processor at, the interrupts having a rate of generation per unit time independent of the time rate of the symbol boundaries [[;]], wherein each of the plurality of interrupts is generated to signal the transfer of one of the symbols from one of the fingers of the rake receiver to the processor;

generating global symbol boundaries at a rate independent of the time rate of the symbol boundaries;

writing symbols from a first finger to an available one of a first data register and a second data register;

writing symbols from a second-fingers finger to another available one of a first data register and a second data register; and

alternatively reading symbols from the first data register and the second data register based on the global symbol boundaries at a rate independent of a rate that the first finger and the second finger write symbols to the first data register and the second data register of the symbol boundaries of the first and second fingers.

30. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 29, further comprising at least one of incrementing a counter when writing symbols to one of the first data register and the second data register, and decrementing a counter when reading symbols from one of the first data register and the second data register.

31. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 30, further comprising:

if the counter reaches a predetermined value, reading more than one of the first data register and the second data register to which one of the fingers has written, in a given one of the global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of the global symbol boundaries.

32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 30, further comprising:

if the counter reaches a predetermined value, continuing to read one of the first data register and the second data register in a given one of the global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of the global symbol boundaries.

33. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a rake receiver; and

a processor, wherein the apparatus is adapted to generate interrupts in a transfer of information between symbols from the rake receiver and to the processor, wherein each interrupt is generated to signal the transfer of one of the symbols from one of the fingers of the rake receiver to the processor wherein the interrupts are generated in a transfer of symbols between fingers of the rake receiver and the processor, the interrupts having a rate of generation per unit time independent of a time rate of symbol boundaries of the symbols, and wherein the apparatus is adapted to generate interrupts that comprise global symbol boundaries generated at a rate independent of the symbol boundaries;

a first of the fingers is able to write symbols to an available one of a first data register and a second data register;

a second of the fingers is able to write symbols to another available one of the first data register and the second data register; and

the processor is able to alternatively read symbols from the first data register and the second data register in the global symbol boundaries at a rate independent of the a rate that the first finger and the second finger write symbols to the first data register and the second data register first and second of the fingers.

34. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising:

a counter that increments when writing symbols to one of the first data register and the second data register ~~is written to; and~~

a counter that decrements when reading symbols from one of the first data register and the second data register ~~is read from.~~

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein, if the counter reaches a predetermined value, the processor reads more than one of the first data register and the second data register to which one of the fingers has written, in a given one of the global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of the global symbol boundaries.

37. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 3435, wherein, if the counter reaches a predetermined value, the processor reads more than one of the first data register and the second data register to which one of the fingers has written, in a

given one of the global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of the global symbol boundaries.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein, if the counter reaches a predetermined value, the processor continues reading one of the first data register and the second data register in a given one of the global symbol boundaries, before reading from another of the global symbol boundaries.

39. (Canceled)